

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5-8, 10 and 11 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 2, 4 and 9 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Claims 1, 5, 6, 8 and 10 are amended and claim 11 is added. No new matter is added.

I. Information Disclosure Statement

An Information Disclosure Statement was filed on July 22, 2003. Applicant requests acknowledgement of receipt and consideration of the references listed thereon.

II. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Specifically, the Office Action alleges that the meaning of "another integer number" is made. Claim 10 is amended in reply to the rejection. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

III. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-3 and 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,122,705 to Kusase et al. (hereinafter "Kusase") in view of U.S. Patent 6,455,974 to Fogarty. As claims 2 and 9 are canceled, the rejection of those claims is moot. Applicant traverses the rejection of claims 1, 3, 7 and 8.

Applicant asserts that neither Kusase nor Fogarty, whether considered alone or in combination, disclose or suggest each and every feature recited in the rejected claims as amended. For example, the combination of references does not disclose or suggest a rotary electric machine, comprising *inter alia* a multi-phase winding having a plurality of separate electric conductor segments connected in series, each of the slots receives therein generally a same number of the conductor segments and the electric conductor segments are connected together through respective end portions.

As admitted in the Office Action, Kusase does not teach one end of one of the phase windings connected to a middle point other than both ends of another one of the phase windings in a cyclic manner among the phase windings. To overcome the admitted deficiency, the Office Action combines Fogarty and alleges that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the phase winding of Kusase as taught by Fogarty.

Applicant submits that there is no suggestion in either of the references to make such a combination. Kusase addresses the problem of magnetic noise being increased due to leakage of magnetic flux causing a generated voltage to fluctuate and an output waveform to be distorted giving rise to ripples when a generated output is rectified into a direct current. In contrast, Fogarty is addressing a need for generators that can be easily configured for various fixed voltage output requirements without having to redesign the entire electrical and mechanical nature of the generator (col. 2, lines 45-48). As the applied references are addressing different problems, Applicant submits that one skilled in the art would not make such a combination.

Additionally, even were such a combination made, the combination of references does not disclose or suggest each and every feature recited in the amended claims as such a combination would not disclose or suggest a rotary electric machine wherein the multi-phase winding has a plurality of separate electric conductor segments connected in series, each of the slots receives therein generally a same number of the conductor segments, and the electric conductor segments are connected together through respective end portions.

Regarding claim 8, Applicant asserts that the combination of references does not disclose or suggest a rotary electric machine comprising *inter alia* a multi-phase winding wherein each of the phase windings includes a plurality of separate electrical conductor segments connected in series wherein a number of the electric conductor segments received in

each of the slots is fixed to an integer number and wherein at least two conductor segments in a same slot are different in length and joined together.

Additionally, regarding claim 10, the combination of references does not disclose or suggest a rotary electric machine comprising *inter alia* a multiphase winding, wherein phase winding now connected to one another in a predetermined form of a y-connection and a Δ -connection to provide an output which is intermediate between two outputs which the rectifier device provides when the phase windings are connected and the y-connection and the number of turns in each slot is fixed to the integer number and the number of turns is another integer number less than the integer number by one, wherein each of the phase windings is composed of a plurality of conductor segments in at least two lengths joined together in a same slot.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests rejection of claims 1-3 and 7-9 be withdrawn.

Claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Kusase and Fogarty in view of U.S. Patent 6,137,201 to Yumeda et al. (hereinafter "Yumeda"). As claim 4 is canceled, the rejection of that claim is moot. Rejection of claims 5 and 6 are respectfully traversed.

Applicant asserts that claims 5 and 6 are allowable for at least their dependency on independent claim 1 for the reasons discussed above, as well as for the additional features recited therein. For example, the combination of references does not disclose or suggest a rotary electric machine wherein the electric conductor segments each has a substantially same sectional shape and in different lengths in each slot, as recited in amended claim 6. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of claims 4-6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

IV. New Claim

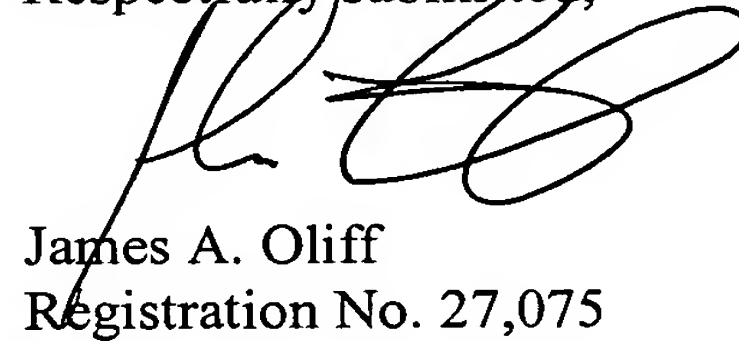
Applicant asserts that claim 11 is allowable as none of the applied references of record disclose or suggest the rotary electric machine according to claim 1, wherein the conductor segments connected together are in different lengths and received in a same slot.

V. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 3, 5-8, 10 and 11 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: November 17, 2003

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